GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1983
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2001
LAND HOLDINGS BY TEA GROWERS
PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the approximate number of small tea growers in the country and total land legally under their possession, State-wise;

(b) whether some of them are possessing land more than their permissible limit or they have encroached upon other lands for tea plantation;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) : As per the information furnished by the Tea Board there are approximately 96,551 small tea growers in the country as in the year 2000. The land under their possession used for growing tea is approximately 98134 hect. However, the number of small tea growers in the country state-wise who are registered with theTea Board based on legal ownership / possession of land and the total land legally under their possession are as follows :-

States	No.of small tea growers registered with Tea Board	Land area legally under possession for tea cultivation (hect.)
Assam	812	2863
West Bengal	108	428
Bihar	113	574
Sikkim	105	85
Tripura	217	464
Manipur	1	10
Uttarpradesh	2	13
Himachal Pradesh	3677	2251
Tamil Nadu	60400	42025
Kerala	5970	4810
Karnataka	15	75
All India	71420	53598

(b) to (d) : Small tea growers are registered by Tea Board on the basis of a `No Objection Certificate` issued by the concerned State Government. The `No Objection Certificate` issued by the concerned State indicates the total grant area of the respective tea growers and therefore possession of additional land above the permissible limit or encroachment of any land for tea cultivation by the registered growers does not arise.